



The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

PROVINCIAL OFFICE
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KOCHI 780 JAPAN
TEL 0888-72-3658

宗教法人:カトリック聖母献身宣教会

オブレート会
高知市本町 5-6-26
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NEWSLETTER

February 1981

1.

Dear Fellow Oblates,

I am taking this opportunity to catch up on sharing the news of the Province with you. Some of the news is perhaps "old News" thus running the risk of repeating myself.

POST CAPITULAR ANIMATION TEAM

The new Constitutions and Rules, approved by the General Chapter and adopted by the decree of Fr. General came into effect on January 1, 1981. This document invites us in faith to renew ourselves in the spirit of our vocation as the Founder wished. Now we have an even more important task of doing something about it! As a part of our Provincial response to the call of God which comes to us through this document, and as a first step in the preparation for our Congress, I have asked Ron La Framboise, Ray Bourgoin and Wency Laguidao to form a Post Capitular Animation Team with me. After our first meeting, I will have the details to share with you.

OBLATE KINDERGARTEN DIRECTOR'S MEETING - NARUTO JAN. 12, 1981

Present: Angelo Siani, O.M.I., Michael Yamazaki, O.M.I., John Mahoney, O.M.I., Ron La Framboise, O.M.I., Leonard Inui, O.M.I., John Iwo, O.M.I., Nestor Jao, O.M.I., Bertram Silver, O.M.I., Sr. Fukahori, S.N.D.

Recommendations of the Directors to the Provincial Council:

1. That those of our personell who have reached the obligatory retirement age of 55 by March 31st. 1981 be rehired for a period of one year.
2. That our teachers and kindergarten employees who have reached the obligatory age of 55 and who have not completed 20 years in the kyosaikumiai be allowed to remain on the plan until they have completed the necessary 20 years, so as not to lose their retirement benefits.

2.
3. That permission be requested from Kochi Prefecture to increase the fixed number of enrollment at Aki Kindergarten from 80 to 120.

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING

NARUTO- JAN. 12, 1981

Present: Angelo Siani, O.M.I. Provincial, Michael Yamazaki, O.M.I. and John K. Mahoney, O.M.I. Consultants; and Fr. Bertram N. Silver, O.M.I. Busar and recording secretary.

The Council meeting began with a discussion on the recommendations of the Oblate Kindergarten Director's. The recommendations were passed unanimously.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to financial matters. The budget for 1981 was passed by the council. Fr. Bertram Silver will send this report to all the members of the Province.

The question of the renovation of the priest's house at Nakajimacho was also discussed. No firm decision was made.

The next Provincial Council Meeting will be held in Kochi on February 16, 1981.

ON GOING FORMATION

Bill Maher, O.M.I. will be taking a nine month course at the Institute of Religious Formation at Saint Louis University. The course begins on September 1, 1981. Bill will also take his holidays with his family while he is in the States.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS Effective February, 1981

The new address for Hikarigaoka is:

1-1-15 Hikarigaoka-machi
Hakata-ku, Fukuoka-shi 816

〒816
福岡市博多区光丘町1丁目1-15
光丘カトリック教会

Philippines

Fr. Charles Prass, O.M.I. sent two sample T-shirts. They have the design of the Oblate World, cross and the words "The Oblate Cross Around the World." Should you like to order, you may alter the design and/or the wording at a cost of U.S. \$4.00, including mailing.

3.

You may also order Christmas cards and suggest your own design.
They cost U.S.\$1.00 per dozen

Order from:

Fr. Charles Prass, O.M.I.
11 th. Avenue, Grace Park
Caloocan City 3112
Philippines.

Sample Christmas card:



NEW ASSIGNMENTS:

Due to the fact that Sr. Fukahori has been transferred by her Superior, Fr. John K. Mahoney has been assigned to Nakajimachoo Kindergarten as Encho for a period of one year. Thank you John for accepting this assignment on such short notice.

Your prayers are requested for the Father of Dick Bonang, O.M.I., who died in early January.

Angelo Siani, O.M.I.
Provincial

THE NEWS

Kochi - John K. Mahoney, O.M.I.

I would like to thank all of the Fathers who so generously offered Masses and prayers for my father at the time of his death. I also appreciate the many consoling words by letter and phone. The best way to express my thanks is by my daily prayers for all of you who were so thoughtful at that time. Thank you.

Kochi - Y. Tosa

India Revisited

I went to India December 26, 1980
and came back January 7, 1981.

It's just the same as 25 years ago.....

dirty as a pigpen
stinking as a latrine
everything (at least one or two hours) late
nothing on time

a country in need of "salvation".

beggers everywhere
rattling clattering taxis
cacophany of horns
every night electricity black-outs
no beef on the table
a lot of beef in the streets

a country in need of "salvation".

a nervous brother
sometimes an impossible brother
my little sister with a rash
politics and politicians
corruption

a country in need of "salvation".

delicious tendoori chicken.
tasty papaya
refreshing coconut milk
green bananas
yellow bananas
red bananas
"tempura" bananas

no need of "salvation" here

Dehli weather cold, food hot
Calcutta cold, food hot
Agra cloudy
Kerala State warm and green
Trivandrum lovely beach
God's nature in the south a paradise.

no need of "salvation".

benches in all airports hard
 automatic vendors don't exist
 communists and christians fighting in Kerala
 three 'catholic' rites fighting each other in Kerala
 Kerala many nuns in saree here and there
 more nuns in classical habits there and here
 Kerala in need of "salvation".
 Madras no room
 beautiful old emples
 the best school for the blind and deaf
 dry state
 alcohol permit necessary
 two hours waiting before lunch is served
 Madras too, in need of "salvation".
 Air India, not on time
 Indian Airlines never on time
 the airlines in need of watches made in Japan.....

However Bengali's poet Tagore writes about India, that mystery:

"The sun of the first day
 Asked a question
 At the new appearance of
 Existence...
 'Who are you?'
 It received no reply.
 Years came and went by,
 The sun at the day's end,
 Asked its last question,
 As it set on the western shore
 Of the ocean,
 In evening's stillness...
 'Who are you?'
 It had no reply.

I went to India and came back, but I left a few friends there.

No.

Date

ITAMI - DICK HARR

6.

It's nice to report that we three here at Itami have settled in and have pretty well taken hold of the reins here. This is indeed a fine parish. The welcome accorded us has been great, making it so easy to adjust. We all agree that one of the unique qualities of the parish in Itami is its strong attachment and awareness of the Scriptures. A lot of credit is due to Eddie and all those years of such hard work.

Here with the three of us in residence, we are able to have prayer in common, and this has been most satisfying. We're using the U.S. breviary, so if you have this, bring it along when you come. The roads here are no longer such mystery. I can leave the house with some assurance of a safe return usually. Xave, you'll have to come back and let me try that road to the Shin-Osaka station with you again. It goes without saying that Itami has an open door, a welcome mat, an extra room (somewhere) for anyone coming this way. Already several have visited here, and it's been fun.

Every year during the first week of January, a leadership conference of 3 days is held in Atami for the Charismatic Renewal. I attended this year along with 175 others. People from as far away as Hokkaido and Okinawa were there. We literally took over the Central Hotel there, and spent an especially prayer-filled few days together. The Hatsudai Prayer Center runs this each year. The speakers are from the prayer groups in Japan. There were some excellent talks, some helpful experiences related, and much wholesome, powerful prayer. When those 175 voices broke out in song, even God had to listen. If you can spare a couple January days next year, I highly recommend this conference.

Nakamura - Bill Maher

7.

It was a very busy but pleasant holiday season this year and I hope everyone had a Happy New Year. I didn't get any type of greeting card out this year but thanks for the ones I received. The annual 'Shimin Kurisumasu' Program we put on with the Protestants was a big success this year at least from the ticket sales and attendance aspect of it, over 1000 tickets sold and 600 attending. I thought Aiyako Sono's talk could have been better but in spite of the talk I was bursting with joy at finally being able to introduce her to the people of Nakamura. We first asked her to come 6yrs. ago.

We just finished the first part of the Columban Catechetical Course and about eleven have decided to continue to the second part. Seventeen came to our Family Night party closing the first part and we had a real 'gochisoo' prepared by some of the women.

The Spirit really works in funny ways the ones I think will certainly continue drop out and the ones I don't think will continue, continue. I was complaining to the Lord about the discouragement I had over one of my protracted helpers for future courses of this kind dropping out and all he said was, 'Bill, you just work here'!

The big projects for Feb. are to continue with part two of the Catechetical Course and the other normal work plus a speech to the Rotary Club and a talk on 'Minna Byoodoo de Aru', for the 'Roojin Daigaku' at the 'Koominkan'. I hope I can get something ready. I wish Gerry Stevens our 'senmon' on this, could come down and give it but he can't.

I've received one more good set of tapes.

Rohr, Fr. Richard O.F.M., 'An Overview of the Bible', 11 cassettes.
Bill Maher.



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February 20, 1981

Dear Fellow Oblates,

In this letter you will find a summary of the notes taken at the Kochi District Meeting concerning Seibo Gakuen. As indicated in the notes, the men of the Kochi District have decided to discontinue the Gakuen for the reasons stated.

After consulting all the Oblates here in Japan and if no one is interested in coming to Kochi to continue the Gakuen, the proposal will be put into effect this year. If you have any comments please send them to me.

Fraternally in Christ,

Angelo Siani, O.M.I.

Angelo Siani, O.M.I.

Provincial

KOCHI NIGHT SCHOOL

In the opening remarks by Fr.Siani the following remarks and discussion were made: The Kochi Prefecture has recognized the Gakuen as a "Special School,. Reports are to to be sent to the Prefecture periodically. In the beginning, in order to be accredited, a certain number of subjects had to be offered to the students attending the school. Some years ago this was true, but gradually due to various reasons some of the subjects that were originally on the curriculum were dropped.

Xav then continued the discussion by giving the Fathers in attendance an outline which included the present ~~personnell~~, enrollment, financial status and some personal views of the School. Financially, in order to keep the school going it would be necessary to raise the monthly tuition. However, it was mentioned that finances are not the major problem at this time. What seems to be the main deterrent to continuing the school is the apparent lack of interest on the part of the OMIs of the Prefecture.

The original purpose of the school was to provide the OMIs in the Kochi prefecture with a common apostolate in the city that would be a means of providing a service to society and also be a means of making contacts with the students attending through this apostolate.

A discussion then took place on the recommendations of Xav.:

Recommendations:

Many voiced the opinion that there was no interest in personal involvement in the school on the part of the OMIs in the prefecture; therefore, close the school. A discussion took place on ex-OMIs taking over the school. At present, it seemed as though none of these laymen in Japan were available for this work. Another suggestion was made to the effect that the director ask the YBU institute to supply teachers. This suggestion did not meet with much enthusiasm.

Recommendation and Proposal:

After a lengthy discussion it was the opinion of the OMIs of Kochi that the school had provided a definite service but due to a lack of interest and time on the part of the OMIs plus lack of personnell the school be closed. Information would be passed on to the rest of the vice province. If there are no OMIs interested, from other areas, then the proposal would be put into effect:namely: close the Kochi Night School.



OMI INFORMATION

JAPAN

Provincial Newsletter of the OBLATES OF MARY IMMACULATE
Vice Province of Japan

P.O. Box 14
Hakata-ku, Fukuoka-shi 816

March, 1981



In this issue:

LETTER from the Superior General, Fr. Fernand Jette, OMI

MESSAGE from the Regional Councillor, Fr. Desmond

O'Donnell, OMI

VICE PROVINCE CONVENES FOR CONGRESS

ON THE CONSTITUTIONS AND RULES

The Vice Province of Japan comes together for a three-day congress on the newly-revised Constitutions and Rules, March 21-24, at the Fukuoka Retreat House of the Passionist Fathers. Preparations for the congress started some nine months ago and the topics to be discussed at the congress will be mainly the results of the meetings held on district level. The method will be through discussions in small groups and reporting to the whole assembly.

The following have signed up for the congress:

<u>Tokyo:</u>	Dick BONANG	<u>Kochi:</u>	John MAHONEY
	Ray BOURGOIN		Tom MAHER
	Jack DEELY		Ange SIANI
			Xave Y. TOSA
<u>Itami-</u>			Leo SIMONS
<u>Tokushima:</u>	Dick HARR		John IWO
	Jose DE FRUYT		
	Ron LAFRAMBOISE	<u>Fukuoka:</u>	Mike YAMAZAKI
	Bert SILVER		Len INUI
	Ed WILLIAMS		Jan VAN HOYDONCK
	Fran HAHN		Wency LAGUIDAO
	Gerry STEVENS		

Fr. Des O'DONNELL, Regional Councillor for Asia-Oceania region will be present during the congress.

Ron LAFRAMBOISE, the Vice Province's delegate to the last General Chapter will act as the chairperson.

On the second day of the congress, March 23, there will be a silver jubilee celebration for Fr. Ed WILLIAMS and Fr. Tom MAHER both celebrating their 25th year in the priesthood this

year. The celebration will start with the Eucharist and to be followed by a dinner.

The last time that the Vice Province gathered for a congress was in July, 1978 in Kochi.

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AN OBLATE CELEBRATES FIRST SIGNED MASS IN JAPAN

"First signed mass in Japan- a realization of a dream of the hard of hearing" quote from the front page of the March 7 issue of the Catholic Weekly, the national catholic newspaper.

On February 11, Jack DEELY made history by being the first to celebrate a signed mass (mass in sign language) in the country. It was held at the Tajimi Catholic Church in Gifu Prefecture with 22 hard of hearing persons in attendance. In some churches, mass for the hard of hearing is being done to some extent with the aid of an interpreter who signs for the priest. However, for the first time, the celebrant himself signed the whole mass, speaking, as it were, in the same language understood by the people. The songs, readings and the homily were all signed.

One participant expressed: "We have hoped for this in a long time. It was the first time that we felt we were truly sharing in the Eucharist."

- o - o -

TO ROME:

Ron LAFRAMBOISE is Rome-bound this Summer to attend the congress on The Oblates and Evangelization from August 29 to September 15.

Provincial, Fr. Ange SIANI is also going to Rome to attend the Special Session for Provincials from May 23 to June 18.

"Itte irasshai!"

- o - o -

BIRTHDAYS - ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays:

Ordinations:

April 17	Gerry Stevens	April 4	Jerry Novotny
17	Jack Deely	11	Jack Deely
22	Wency Laguidao	26	Bill Maher
		29	Fran Hahn



L.J.-C. et M.I.

SUPERIOR GENERALIS

MISSIONARIORUM OBLATORUM
B.M.V. IMMACULATAE

00165 Roma, February 20, 1982

Via Aurelia, 290

Tel. 6370251

Rev.Fr. Angelo SIANI, O.M.I.
Provincial
5-6-26 Honmachi
Kochi 780
JAPAN

Dear Father Siani,

With great joy, I heard that you will be having a Provincial Congress in March concerning the interiorization of the Constitutions and Rules. The text of the Constitutions and Rules -- I notice it on all my trips -- is becoming more and more a living food for all Oblates. A new Springtime is at our door. We must enter into it with much hope and zeal.

For Japan also, the moment of renewal has come, an evangelical renewal which begins with ourselves, with our own lives, and from there has a deep influence on the people.

Renewal in prayer, in community life, in support and fraternal love. "That they may be one so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (John 17,21). Renewal also in announcing Jesus Christ. Never tire of searching for ways, ever more accessible and better adapted, by means of which we can tell people of each and every culture who Christ is.

I invite you to reflect during your Congress on three ideas which John Paul II recalled to the Bishops of Japan, on February 23, 1981, when he arrived in Tokyo:

1. The importance of prayer and the ministry of the Word:
"For all of us -- and it is worth repeating time and time again -- the apostolic priorities of the priesthood are 'prayer and the ministry of the Word'" (Acts 6,4).
2. The need of promoting vocations: "The Gospel still has need of many witnesses. It is important that young people be given the opportunity to hear Christ's call. And

many of the young people, once they have heard and seen Jesus, will want to follow Him".

3. The will to persevere until the end, in confidence and joy: "Let us continue then, despite obstacles and setbacks, despite human weakness, to offer the Gospel freely and in its entirety. It is our contribution in the face of the loneliness of the world, it is our answer to the selfishness of man, to the lack of meaning that many people find in life, to the temptation to escapism, to lethargy and discouragement... In the name of Jesus, let us go forth confidently, and in the name of Mary, let us rejoice!"

Once again, I assure all my brother Oblates in Japan of my prayers and my sincere affection.

Devotedly yours in Our Lord and Mary Immaculate,

Fernand Jetté, O.M.I.

Fernand Jetté, O.M.I.
Superior General



Desmond O'Donnell, O.M.I.
General Councillor.

O. M. I.

My brother Oblates of Japan, I am privileged to offer you three considerations by way of encouragement before your approaching congress.

"God is ever at work in the world; his life-giving Word seeks to transform mankind, to build his People. We are instruments of that Word. We have to be open and flexible, learning how to respond better to new needs and how to find new answers, discerning all the while the movement of the Spirit who renews the face of the earth."
OMI Constitutions 26a

As Oblates we publicly profess to be engaged in God's work. To make sure we are doing this our Constitutions remind us that we have to be "instruments of God's Word," a Word which is always new. Thus for continual discernment and for openness and flexibility, the need is obvious. The congress will give each of you an opportunity to do this deeply in communion with your brother Oblates. And it is only when we have done this that we can finish our lives saying as Jesus did: "I have glorified you on earth and finished the work you gave me to do." (Jn 17:4)

"As individuals and as a community, we have the responsibility to seek the will of God. Decisions which express this will are best reached after prayerful discernment"
OMI Constitutions 62.

Each of us wants to live by the will of God- and so to have God with us- as expressed in this quote from our Constitutions. The coming congress is meant to be an exercise in this responsibility. It is only when we continue to search for God's will in our lives that we can be sure he is with us in our individual apostolates, as Jesus reminds us: "He who sent me is with me; he has not left me to myself, for I always do what pleases him." (Jn 8:29)

"In major decisions and in matters concerning the life and mission of the whole community, there will be a process of discernment conducive to consensus." Rule 20

At regular intervals in the life of each province, there is need to make such "major decisions" or at least to look at major orientations. This rule reminds us that these must be preceded by discernment. Here too we have another purpose of the congress. The life each of us leads, the actions we do and our growing knowledge of God will depend always on a discernment which results in wisdom and spiritual understanding. Here is how St.

Paul puts it: "... and what we ask God is that through perfect wisdom and spiritual understanding, you should reach the fullest knowledge of his will. So you will be able to lead the kind of life the Lord expects of you, a life acceptable to Him in all aspects; showing the results in all the good actions you do and increasing your knowledge of God." (Col 1:10)

These words express my hope and my prayer also, as I join you during the congress.

Desmond O'Donnell, OMI
Regional Councillor



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NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1981



Dear Fellow Oblates,

Bro. Tsuda was hospitalized for two weeks this month. Thanks to your prayers Brother is well and home again.

Congratulations to our new District Coordinators

Kochi District

Fr. Tosa Yoshikazu, O.M.I.

Fukuoka District

Fr. Jan Van Hoydonck, O.M.I.

Tokushima District

Fr. Ronald La Framboise, O.M.I.

Birthdays and Ordination Anniversaries

Birthdays
Gerard Stevens, O.M.I.

April 17

John Deely, O.M.I.

April 17

Wency Laguidao, O.M.I.

April 22

Ordinations
Jerry Novotny, O.M.I.

April 4

John Deely, O.M.I.

April 11

William Maher, O.M.I.

April 26

Francis Hahn, O.M.I.

April 29

Prayers

Please keep Fr. Robert Gill, O.M.I. in your prayers. He's been in and out of the hospital a few times this year. He's back in the parish now and much better.

Nakajimacho Kindergarten

Sister Fukahori who has served as Directress of the Kindergarten for the past three years has received a new assignment. She will be leaving for Kurashiki in April, where she will take up her duties as Directress of a boarding house for school girls. I wish to thank Sr. Fukahori in the name of the province for her dedicated work here these past three years.

Sr. Sakimura of the Notre Dame Sisters will be the new Directress. Her contract is for one year.

The Rule and Constitutions

You have all received the first part of the Rule and Constitutions. I want to thank Ron for helping me put it out. The Philippine Province will be printing the whole Rule shortly. I've ordered a copy for everyone in the Province.

Tokyo

Ray Bourgoïn send you these notes which he "gleaned from a magazine on the various titles etc. for Jesus in the Scriptures.. The fellow is protestant so he based himself on the King James Version, but since the verse is identified, we can easily find the passage and find a more familiar "nomination"."

HOYA ——— Jack Deely

... many thanks for your prayers and interest in Dad's progress. During that first week at home, the doctors tried to save the leg by cutting out the clots. However, that wasn't enough to get the blood circulating again — so, they finally had to amputate (the right leg). Dad surprised us all with the way that he accepted the amputation. We thought for sure that he would throw in the towel. He was never known for his patience — but, he has been doing fine in the therapy sessions. He says he hopes 'to graduate' in a week or two after he's fitted for the prosthesis. The entire family wants me to relay their thanks to you for your prayers and concern. Mom and Dad send a special word of thanks. They were always reminiscing about their trips to Itami, Naruto, Tokushima, Anan, Awa-Ikeda, Kochi, Akaoka, and Aki — they send their thanks and best wishes for your works.

I returned to Hoya in time to prepare for an hour and a half talk (+ question and answer period) on Feb. 1st at Mita Fukushi Kaikan, Mimi Yori Kai. The 'talk' will be transcribed and published in the March issue of the kai's publication (probably because they couldn't understand my 'signs' on Feb. 1st).

It was a super experience . . . much much better than an experience I had last Fall when I was asked by NihonBunka-Kagaku-Sha to interpret for a Montessori expert. I blew it beautifully! About four sentences into the lecture, I threw in the towel and announced from the podium that I wouldn't be able to do the interpreting. What a commotion that caused! A great lesson in humility as well as a super lesson in how not to interpret!

On the 11th, I went on an outing with the deaf parishioners of the Tanashi Protestant Church. The Minister (who is deaf himself) has services every Sunday for the 40 or 50 deaf in the area. I'll be going back to St. Ignatius on Sat. evenings to learn the Christian vocabulary in sign language. That way, I may be able to *communicate* a little more smoothly with the deaf Christians in the area.

Take care. Enjoy. *Thanks again.*

Kobe - Jan Van Hoydonck,

Although a little late, due to hospitalization and a full schedule, I nevertheless would like to use this way to thank all the Fathers for the many tokens of sympathy, and for the generous prayers, first on the occasion of my brother's unexpected death, and later at the time of my operation. Thanks also to those of you who visited me at the Hospital.

With my duties at Eichi University over, and a new pastor for the foreign community in Kobe provided for, I was able to leave Kobe on the 26th of February. To one and all I want to extend a cordial welcome whenever you feel like coming to Fukuoka.

Thanks again, and hope to see you soon.

IN THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH, FAMILY AND SOCIETY

(Address of John Paul II to Italian Federation of Nursery Schools)

Beloved Brothers and Sisters!

1. I am truly happy with this meeting, which gives me the joyful opportunity of cordially greeting the representatives of the "Italian Federation of Nursery School", gathered in Rome these days for the third National Congress.

I bid a hearty welcome to you and, through you, to the twenty-five thousand sisters in Italy who dedicate themselves zealously to such an important mission, and to the parents who have shown their confidence in the validity and importance of your tireless work and have entrusted their children to you to be educated and formed during that very delicate period between the ages of three and six.

The brief words which I address to you at this audience are intended to be words of approval, gratitude, encouragement and good wishes, in order that, in this sector, so important from the religious and social point of view, you may be able to carry out in full serenity that work which is indeed humble, discreet and hidden, but so valuable and meritorious for the Church, the family and society, and which corresponds to the desire of Jesus: "Let the children come to me" (Lk 18:16).

2. Today I wish to express to your Federation, to you who represent it, to all sisters, educators, and those who carry out their activity in the field of the nursery school, my congratulations and those of the Apostolic See for your effective presence, so widespread and vast throughout the nation: it is a question, in fact, of as many as ten thousand nursery schools of Christian inspiration, with about one million children who attend them, and therefore there are also a million families who are involved, stimulated and jointly interested in the complex and daily educational activity in the service of the child, who must be the real centre of all affection, attention, interests and plans: the child, who is beginning to take his first uncertain, cautious steps in the fascinating adventure of life; who expresses his own identity and personality in an original way; who presents himself in need of love and protection; who is open to the beauty of nature; who asks himself and others so many questions about the world and the persons who surround him; who deeply feels the religious sense and is capable, with extraordinary spontaneity, of dialoguing intensely with the heavenly Father.

We can never sufficiently express our sincere gratitude to those who have dedicated the best of their energies, their time, their whole life, to this truly evangelical apostolate to little children, who are the concrete sign of the fruitful love of families, the finest hope of the nations, the constant reminder of the goodness, innocence and clarity which should animate relations among men.

3. When the Church, especially through the work of the Congregations and Religious Institutes, dedicates herself to the spread of nursery schools, working out an overall educational project, inspired by Christian values, she actually operates for the advancement of the whole man and every man. She intends to collaborate actively with families in the education, the formation and, in particular, the initiation of children to faith. The School of Christian inspiration is chosen and preferred by the parents precisely for the formation and religious education integrated into the education of the pupils. Nursery schools too, like all Catholic schools, therefore have the serious duty of proposing a religious formation adapted to the circumstances, often very different, of the pupils. Formation is an essential work, which calls for great love and deep respect for the child, who has the right to a simple and true presentation of Christian faith, as I stressed in the Apostolic Exhortation on Catechesis in our time (cf. Catechesi Tradendae, nos 36 and 69).

For this purpose a continual contact and dialogue with the parents is necessary, to examine together, analyze, and compare educational methods and approaches, in order to avoid possible differences, however unimportant they may seem, which might, however, have a negative influence on the development of the human and Christian personality of the child.

4. In this way the nursery school can and must become a very special meeting place, particularly for young couples, both for their own growth in faith, and for the correct and complete education of their children.

In this perspective the nursery school of Christian inspiration represents an area of specific and committed pastoral action for sisters, as well as for priests and laymen.

I wish to renew to sisters the grateful recognition of the Church for all they accomplish in this field in a spirit of motherly dedication, and also urge them not to let themselves be discouraged by objective difficulties, which might induce them to abandon this area for other types of apostolic activity; but let them continue with renewed vigour in this work, assigning to it adequate means and specifically qualified personnel, even if that may involve great sacrifices.

To the priests, especially parish priests, who have built a nursery school alongside their church at the cost of so many sacrifices, I intend to address the expression of my satisfaction, together with encouragement for this pastoral choice of theirs, which is truly ecclesial.

To men and women educators belonging to the laity, who, through their specific qualification, wish to contribute to the education and formation of children, I wish to hold out also the possibility that they may choose the nursery school as a field of evangelization and human advancement.

To all of these I recall the consoling and demanding words of the conciliar declaration on Christian education: "Splendid, therefore, and of the highest importance is the vocation of those who help parents in carrying out their duties and act in the name of the community by undertaking a teaching career. This vocation requires special qualities of mind and heart, most careful preparation, and a constant readiness to accept new ideas and to adapt the old" (Gravissimum Educationis, 5).

I hope, therefore, that all the faithful will feel that their nursery schools are schools of the Christian community, which must therefore be encouraged and helped; and I also trust that civil societies will recognize the social value of nursery schools of Christian inspiration, ensuring them due support by means of adequate contributions, in order to guarantee the actual freedom of choice of parents in the field of education.

With these wishes I invoke on you personally, and on all those working for the nursery schools, the abundance of the Lord's gifts, and I willingly impart my Apostolic Blessing.

(Given on Saturday, 17 January, 1981 - taken from L'Osservatore Romano, Feb. 16, 1981)

ANAN- NBS JAO

It is my fourth month here in Anan. It seems that days come and go fast. I have work in three places - here in the church and kindergarten and at Kosen.

The first few weeks were difficult adjusting to a new people and place. Bert and Eddie have been very helpful. Many thanks to John for building this place and forming a small Christian community! John started a Bible sharing group that I took over. Some people in that group are really happy with the weekly sharing and have come to a better understanding of their Christian faith and the meaning of God's word in their lives.

The other week, we had a meeting of the shintokai and elected three new officers. We also drew up plans for a three day-parish retreat next May.

That is all for now. My best to each and all.

HOYA -Fran Hahn

Thanks to an urgent appeal from our Provincial, I'm inspired to dash off a note for the newsletter. I haven't written since the change from Tokushima. It was official as of November but I had pretty much left there since last Sept. I spent 3 months in Tokyo working in two parishes and visiting lots of other parishes in the Tokyo and Yokohama dioceses. I arrived back in Takamatsu for Christmas.

Stayed there a week and then attended a meeting of Catechesis at the Franciscan Sister's Retreat House in Totsuka over New Years. Back to Takamatsu for about 10 days, then a wedding in Tokyo, a meeting in Osaka and another in Hiroshima. Few more days in Takamatsu, filling in at Sanbonmatsu for Fr. Yamashita, then after a brief visit to the men in Kochi, I flew to Osaka for a meeting, went to Yonago in Tottori to fill in for the priest there on a weekend. Then up to Tokyo where I went to Nigata City and Sadogajima for a meeting with the priests there about a plan for further Catechesis in those parishes.

I arrived back in Tokyo on Feb. 6 and stayed put. I'm preaching with two other team members at a Church in Tokyo-Kitami. I'm involved with translation work for the Kyoodootai and have scheduled a retreat I'm supposed to preach in the Yonago parish in mid March. Also I have to go to Sadogajima for a weekend (the 21st. of March) and then will wrap up this trip the last weekend of March in Tokyo, before heading back to Takamatsu for Holy Week. After that God only knows, but maybe I'll be able to go home this summer if my schedule allows.

I'm also anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Holy Father in Tokyo. Will attend the Cathedral session with religious and priests and will help distribute Communion at the Mass at Korakuen. Am looking forward to seeing several other Oblates up here too. Tom Maher and John Iwo, as well as Angelo are rumored to be coming up for the occasion. I'm really in great health and with all this travel enjoy the occasion to meet with the men in various districts. The only area I don't get to is Kyushu because I'm the "Tohoku Tanto Shisai" for the Kyoodootai and that means I don't get to go south. Maybe someday.

MADAGASCAR: OBLATES OF MARY IMMACULATE TO OPEN FIRST MISSION HERE

Rome (AIF) — The Congregation of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate will extend their missionary service also among the people of Madagascar. The first Oblate Mission in Madagascar has been entrusted to the Polish Province of the Congregation; by the end of November, there will be five Oblates in Madagascar.

Of the five who will make this foundation, one, Father Franciszek Chroszcz, has been in Tamatave since the 11th of September; the other four, presently studying French in Paris, will join him in November. The five Oblates missionaries will then take part in a trimester course in the Malagasy language and then leave for three missions in the south until the end of 1981. At that time, they will again come together and undertake the direction of the Marolambo mission, which consists of two abandoned and one active missions.

Father Franciszek, who has been a missionary in Cameroon since 1973, mentions several problems of the new mission: the cost of living is more than double that in Cameroon; because they may not receive assistance from Poland (imports are prohibited), they must be aided by Mass intentions; in addition, for eight months of the year, trans-

portation and communication is practically impossible and they must therefore rely on air travel. A Father from Marolambo whom Father Franciszek met, needed three days to travel the 130 kilometers from Marolambo to Mahanoro, the closest city.



The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

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宗教法人:カトリック聖母献身宣教会

オブレート会
高知市本町 5-6-26
TEL 0888-72-3658

April 6, 1981



Dear Fellow Oblates,

May the Risen Christ
be with you
as you do His will.
May He be close beside you
In each task you undertake
And bless the loving service
That you offer for His sake.

A very Happy Easter Season to each and everyone of you.

Yesterday, I received the agenda for the Superior's Conference (April 20-22)
On the Agenda:

1. A proposal how to handle the decrease of Parish Priests, by Fr. Sato OFM
2. A proposal how to handle the decrease of Priests and Brothers in schools by Bishop Hamao.

If you have any suggestions regarding these topics, please send them to me by April 15.

Tom Maher recently attended some sessions on "Personality and Human Relations". He recommends the course highly. Enclosed is an application form with dates, place and fees for those interested.

I've also included a "Travelogue" by Ray Bourgoin.

My schedual:

Holy Thursday	Anan
Good Friday	Tokushima
Holy Saturday	Naruto
April 20-22	Tokyo (Manresa Retreat House, Kamishakuji)

Happy Easter!

Fraternally in Christ and Mary,

Angelo Siani, O.M.I.
Angelo Siani, O.M.I.
Provincial

"THE MOST POSITIVE EXPERIENCE OF MY WHOLE LIFE"

FAMOUS PSYCHIATRIST, DR. CARL ROGERS says:

One of the most revolutionary concepts to grow out of our clinical experience is the growing recognition that the innermost core of man's nature, the deepest layers of his personality, the base of his "animal nature", is positive in nature, is basically socialized, forward-moving, rational and realistic.

PRH (PERSONALITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS) SESSIONS, particularly Session A: Who am I?, using tried and tested "guidelines for personal analysis" help you to reach that "inner core", those "deepest layers" of your personality.

Rev. Clair Yaeck, Chaplain, St. Mary's International School, will offer the WHO AM I? session in English on two occasions this summer.

1st Occasion June 15 - June 19, 9.00 AM to 4.30 PM daily at St. Mary's, Tokyo. Board and lodging not provided. Bring your own lunch or lunch at nearby restaurants.

COST: Registration Fee Y3,000, Tuition Y8,000 Printed materials Y800 (or less.)

2nd Occasion August 17 supper till August 22 Supper (inclusive) This is a live-in session at Fujisawa Misono Kinenkan (retreat house)

Cost: Registration Fee Y3,000
Tuition, Board, Lodging Y28,000
Printed materials: Y800

APPLY TO

Rev. Clair A. Yaeck, SFM
St. Mary's International School
Seta 1-chome, 6-19, Setagaya-ku
Tokyo 158

I WISH TO ATTEND

June Session _____

August Session _____

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

I would be interested in a session
if it were held (give dates and place)

TRAVELOGUE:

Long has it been since I wrote for the newsletter. I thought I'd let you in on some of the feelings I had as I went around visiting. Besides the Oblates I had over 50 names of other people I wanted to visit, however I'll limit myself in this travelogue, to the brethren.

I set off with the intention of getting to Itami all by myself, but Dick HARR called ahead of time and said he'd meet me at the airport. He was there when I arrived and he drove me back when I left 2 days later. I recalled what Bob GILL had once said: "Itami is for the Christians, yes, but also to receive guests with hospitality, a hallmark of the Oblates." I welcomed Dick's hospitality as a continuing of this tradition which Bob insisted upon and Ed WILLIAMS had continued. From the few christians that I knew and spoke to they greatly appreciate his easy-goingness and warmth.

Once at the house I spent sometime with Jose DE FRUYT. Since I also appreciate intellectual pursuits I enjoyed my conversation with him. Along the way he introduced me to his "Meibo" system which overwhelmed me with its preciseness, orderliness as well as all the possibilities it opens up in the pastoral and human relations area. It's beyond me why we never thought of something like that! Every parish would do good to emulate the system, adapted to their own needs! I also found refreshing the fact that one of the christians at one of the gatherings was able to refer in jest to the "DE FRUYT HOUSE". When people can give-and-take like that I feel at ease.

By eveningtime I was able to see Ron LA FRAMBOISE. I was very impressed by his 100% dedication to the "yochien". Rather than the yochien be an appendage only to the parish, its existence has a function of itself. For those who can and will make it an apostolate, there is certainly lots of work to be done in that area. Some of the christians did mention to me that because he has been the provincial they still feel a certain "kowasa" (very typically Japanese) but that on the other hand that fact also gives weight to his sermons.

When I arrived in Naruto Bert SILVER was very busy. I hope he didn't mind my offering a few hints about financial reports. I felt lousy in a way when I saw how tied-up he was with the work at hand. I only hope that running two yochiens, teaching at schools, keeping the provincial finance books, and the regular running of the parish don't catch up with him. On inquiring about Bro TSUDA, I was told that he was out of the hospital, but that because of his age he must be extremely careful...Bert you better be careful too!

The next day Bert drove me into Tokushima. I never know what Ed WILLIAMS thinks of me but he certainly always receives me well. He showed me all the repairs he's had done, some quite necessary. I always found the living quarters like a box. Now they're a home. Having been there on a week-end, I was able to meet a number of old acquaintances and talk old times. The few I was able to speak with, talked highly of their new pastor as well as Jose and his team. It's surprising the things people see and appreciate. You can never erase a man's good influence.

After spending an afternoon with some friends in Komatsu-shima, I arrived in Anan where our young pastor Nes JAO was waiting for me. He was very open with his hopes and desires, difficulties and victories (his Advents, Lents and Easters). He spent his whole day off with me and I couldn't help but feel that here was a young man who is striving to be himself! Those things that worked for some of us with a different background, might not necessarily be the way for all. I left Anan grateful for the reception and praying that our family will let this young flower grow according to its inner thrusts.

On to Awa-Ikeda where in my younger youth I had spent a wonderful summer! Gerry STEVENS was the same but moreso. Having not ceased to marvel at the various charisma each one of us has, I was able to add another here. Gerry is in a different type of apostolate and world! His uniqueness was deeply impressed on me. One of many is his ability to use Canon Law, the Provincial and the "Boss" (Len ROBITAILLE) to his great advantage! His simplicity of style is certainly to be imitated.

And on to Kochi, where I've spent a few wonderful years! Yoji MATSUNAGE was the first I was able to meet. Yoji has helped me a lot in the past and I always like to spend some time with him, discussing various things about the apostolate. Talking with him I really feel the necessity for more Japanese priests in our areas to help bring Christ's message home in a more Japanese way.

From Shinhonmachi I called John MAHONEY to see if there was room at the inn. Assured that he was waiting for me I ran over and got established to spend a number of days. You always feel at home with John. It's as if you'd been there all the time. There's a distinctly different flavor in the atmosphere of Nakajimacho. I couldn't put my finger on any one thing, but I guess the master of atmosphere-maker must get the credit in many little ways.

That night I got to see John IWO. He doesn't look his 50 years...but the sore back he had that night probably was a sign of it. I hope all things went well at the doctor's the next day. By the time I had reached Kochi I was quite tired of travelling, so I didn't get out to Aki, Akaoka or Nakamura. But I had planned my trip to be in Kochi on the weekend when most of the guys get in to the "big" city.

Jerry NOVOTNY came in to eat supper with the gang...but because of previous commitments which the others had made, Jerry and I ate supper alone-together. After a few banterings we always end up talking apostolate and theology so our few hours together went by fast. Tom MAHER joined us before the evening was out. He certainly puts a lot into preparing activities for the prison. Our conversation amongst the three of us centered around that till I was ready to cash in at my usual time. Tom's physical fitness contrasted with my protruding belly. I've got to work on that.

I had spent that whole morning in Ange SIANI's office where we proceeded to solve all the province problems!!! I came out with more than I had when I went in! Ange was his usual "suave" self, hitting me at my weak points to try and get something he wanted...but I didn't break down. One thing about him, you can be quite open in saying what you feel, without having him chop your head off! Anybody who hasn't visited his "suite" yet should do so...you even get coffee if you drink the "poison".

The following morning I headed to Xave TOSA's place thinking I could get a good game of "go" in. We never got around to it. I always get stimulating ideas when I'm with him..though he may find me "blah!" He's really made something out of the rat-hole of a place he had entered. What imagination, creativity, elbow-grease (and a little bit of money) can do! The owner himself is amazed at what was done to these premises. Xave introduced me to some of Tagore's writings! Beautiful!

Bill MAHER came in from Nakamura where he fore-went (!) a birthday party so he could see me...or let me see him! Actually the party was only delayed. His usual greeting: "Hi, nice to see you in Kochi, why don't you stay?" Since I've answered that question a hundred times I didn't let it affect me. He's gotten rid of his pal RAPHAEL (sob)! He seems to be looking forward to his year back Stateside...getting rid of the dog was one step. We should see him in Tokyo in late June for a few days.

When I first arrived in Kochi I saw the top of the head of Lei SIMONS from over the fence. When I eventually got in he was nowhere to be found. A few hours later I went into the Volunteer Bureau to see him, but he was in the middle of a "soodan"...the next day he left for Tokyo. Just when I thought I had missed the mystery-man he called Nakajimacho on my last evening so we were able to exchange greetings and talk a little of his interesting trip to South America.

I guess that covers my trip in a little nutshell. I did get to see over 40 of the other 50 people I set out to see. As the Japanese would say, I did have one little "kokoro-nokori". I didn't appreciate what some of the men said about some of the others. Rather than building on the good and good will there is in each one of us, at times there was constant "bitching" about the faults of others or the way of doing of others. Why can't we recognize the good in each other? Besides being un-gospel-like, it also rubs off on the christians who hear us say one thing and do another. I felt a need for reconciliation in some areas. This is intended as positive criticism so that our Lents can be Easters and flow into our Pentecosts (which is our mission). HAPPY EASTER! And thanks for a wonderful trip.

Ray



MISSIONARY OBLATES OF MARY IMMACULATE
JAPANESE VICE PROVINCE
NEWSLETTER

May 1981

Dear Fellow Oblates,

On May 14, what a shock to read in the morning newspaper that an attempt had been made on the life of John Paul II! The same morning in a T V interview, Bishop Raymond Tanaka said that he was not surprised that such an attempt was made on the Pope's life, and went on to compare the Pope with the Good Shepherd "who lays down his life for his sheep." "The Pope", he said, "was well aware of the dangers in making so many public appearances, but he is a shepherd who loves his sheep and wishes to be close to them." Please continue your prayers for a speedy and complete recovery of our Holy Father.

BROTHER TSUDA, O.M.I.

Brother has been admitted into Kobe City Hospital, where he is responding well to the treatments.

When visiting him the nurses have asked that we observe the visiting hours.

Visiting hours: Sunday & Holidays; 10:00 A.M. to Noon
3:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
Daily hours: 3:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

The Fathers in Itami visit him on Saturdays and Sundays.
Bert Silver has been visiting him every Monday.
Fr. Maniko visits and brings him Communion on every Tuesday.

If you could arrange to visit him on one of the other days, it would be helpful. Thank you.

Birthdays

Robert Gill, O.M.I. May 17
Thomas Maher, O.M.I. May 29

Ordinations

John K. Mahoney, O.M.I. May 30
Thomas Maher, O.M.I. May 30
Bertram N. Silver, O.M.I. May 30
Angelo Siani, O.M.I. May 31
Richard Bonang, O.M.I. May 31

Homeleave 1981

Richard Harr, O.M.I.	May - August
Francis Hahn, O.M.I.	May - August
John K. Mahoney, O.M.I.	May - July
Leonard Simons, O.M.I.	August
Bertram N. Silver, O.M.I.	August - September
Nestor Jao, O.M.I.	August
William Maher, O.M.I.	July - August

Study 1981

Richard Harr, O.M.I.	Scripture	September
William Maher, O.M.I.	St. Louis University	Sept. - May
Tosa Yoshikazu, O.M.I.	O.M.I. renewal Program	
	Layfayette, California	July - Sept.

WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE NEXT SUMMER BY CARROLL STUHLMUELLER, CP 1981

Themes:

The Psalms: the prayer of Israel within the Mission
Apostolate of the Church

The secular challenge of Israel's Prophets to the Church mission
today.

Places & Dates: July 27-31 Mefu Retreat House, Takarazuka-shi
Hyogo-ken 665.

Aug. 1-14 Fukuoka Retreat House, 148 Katae, Nishi-ku,
Fukuoka.

N.B. Apply to Fr. Ward Biddle, C.P., 6 Tsukudo, Hachiman-cho Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 162, for the Mefu workshop. Apply to Fr. Michael Suzuki, C.P. for the Fukuoka workshop.

Fee: 20,000 yen

Tokushima April 1-3

A workshop was sponsored by Bertram Silver, O.M.I. for the Teachers of Naruto and Anan.

First Day: Montessori Education, talk by
Fr. Yamashita.

Second Day Religious Education & Visual Aids,
talks by Fr. Edward Williams, O.M.I.
and Mr. Nishikawa.

Third Day Interpersonal relationships, talk by
Fr. Ronald La Framboise, O.M.I.

Naruto

Fr. Bertram Silver, O.M.I. received an award for his cooperation with the Youth Exchange of the International Lions Club.

Naruto

Bert Silver, O.M.I. would like to share this letter with you.

Dear Fr. Bertram N. Silver,

Sending you greeting from the Oblate Fathers in Bangladesh. Your letter to me, dated June 1980, addressed to Fatima Church, Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, including a letter and U.S. \$10/= reached me only a couple of weeks ago. The reason been: I left Malaysia in May 1980. Since the government of Malaysia terminated our stay in the country, all the Oblates had to leave the country one after the other. We have closed our mission there since. After I left Kuala Lumpur I had not been in a permanant address.. So your letter had taken many months to reach me. Iam very sorry that there is very little that I can do from this end. I hope you will understand.

I jioned the Oblates in Bangladesh in the beginning of this year. We are six Oblate Fathers, working in Bangladesh. There is one from Belgium, one from France, one from India, one from Bangladesh and two from Sri Lanka. One priest is in charge of the Oblate Home of Studies in Dacca. There are about eight young seminarians who are preparing to be Oblate Priests. The rest of us live in Sylhet Town, about 200 miles from Dacca, the Capital of Bangladesh. We have neither a church or a home of our own. We live in a rented house, among Muslims and Hindus. Our work is mostly among the tribal people called Khasies and Gharos, scattered around the mountains. Their main ocupation is to work as labourers in tea-gardens and betel-gardens. Since these groups of people do not belong to the Bengoli race, the State does not pay much attention to their welfare and development. These are the most abandoned groups of people with whom we work. They need our help. We help them, first of all to live a good life, in the education of their children, in hygiene, in organising self-help projects etc. The distance we have to travel is very great. The roads are very bad. We have to cross many rivers before we reach the people. There are many places where we can reach them only on foot. We depend of foreign aid for our living and transportation etc. Since the church in Bangladesh is very poor. As you yourself know this country is one of the most underdeveloped countires in the world, there is a lot that we can do for the development of the people. We are trying our very best to help them in the little way we can.

Now, a little help from your side will definitely go a long way to help us bring Christ's message of love and hope to these most neglected people. If you can find or intriduce some wealthy people of your country to be our benefactors for the mission we will be very grateful to you..

I thank you once again for your letter and looking forward to hear from you and your missionary work in Japan.

Yours in the Lord & M.I.

Fr. Emilianas Moraes, O.M.I.

Fr. Moraes's address: Fr. Emilianus Moraes, O.M.I.
Oblate Fathers
P.O. Box - 80
Sylhet Town
Bangladesh.

Shinhonmachi Volunteer Bureau:

The Volunteer Bureau founded by Fr. Leonard Simons and a group of laymen has finally received the necessary funds ... to complete a toilet for the use of hancapped people. The funds were provided by the Kochi, Kuroshio Lions Club of which Angelo Siani is a member.

Fukuoka

Good news. Fr. Wency Laguidao, O.M.I. has agreed to be the editor of our Oblate newsletter.

Please send your news items to:

Fr. Wency Laguiado, O.M.I.
Editor, O.M.I. Information Japan
1-1-15 Hikargaoka-machi
Hakata-ku
Fukuoka-shi 816

Fraternally in Christ and Mary,

Angelo Siani, O.M.I.

Angelo Siani, O.M.I.
Provincial